(c) No such report has been received by the Ministry of Rural Development who is no longer administering any Centrally- sponsored Scheme of National Old Age Pension Scheme.

(d) With the transfer of the schemes, the States/UTs have flexibility in the choice, parameters and implementation of the transferred Schemes.

Requests received from State Governments for implementation of Food for Work Programmes

3544. DR. ABRAR AHMED : Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) The request received by Centre from State Governments for implementation of Food for Work Programmes in their States as on date; and

(b) The action taken by Government thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI U.V. KRISHNAM RAJU) : (a) and (b) The Food for Work Programme was in operation during the period from January 2001 to 31st March 2002. From 1st April 2002, the Special Component of the Sampoorna Grameen Rozgar Yojana (SGRY) is in operation for taking up relief works in the Calamity Affected Areas/Districts. As on date the Special Component is in operation in 15 drought affected States namely Andhra Pradesh, Chhattisgarh, Gujarat, Haryana, Himachal Pradesh, Jharkhand, Karnataka, Kerala, Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra, Orissa, Rajasthan, Tamil Nadu, Uttar Pradesh and Uttaranchal. Under the Programme, foodgrains are provided free of cost to the drought affected States on the basis of the monthly requirement worked out by the Ministry of Agriculture and approved by the Task Force set up under the chairmanship of Deputy Prime Minister. Release under the Food for Work Programme (FFWP) from January 2001 to March 2002 was 40.31 lakh tonnes of foodgrains to 11 drought affected States whereas under the Special Component of the Sampoorna Grameen Rozgar Yojana (SGRY) about 63.40 lakh tonnes of foodgrains have been released during 2002-2003 to the 15 drought affected States.